

Agenda Item: I.A.2.**DATE:** January 27, 2005**SUBJECT:** Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) at Tennessee State University**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In the mid-1990's, the Commission on Accreditation of the American Physical Therapy Association (CAPTE) changed the requirements for accreditation. The baccalaureate degree would no longer be eligible for accreditation and graduates would no longer be eligible to practice as a licensed physical therapist. The proposed program is the last of the four programs at public institutions to propose the DPT. The other three public institutions are the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, East Tennessee State University, and the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. In 1997, these institutions submitted proposals for the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT). After comprehensive reviews by external consultants, THEC approved the four MPT programs in the April 1998 commission meeting. In 2000, CAPTE again changed the scope of accreditation for education programs; the MPT will no longer be the entry-level degree in this profession and the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) is the nationally recommended degree of choice for the first professional licensing degree. The objective of CAPTE academic requirements expand expected outcomes of graduates in the areas of prevention, critical injury, clinical decision making, diagnosis and prognosis, management of care delivery and administration/business management.

PROPOSED START-UP DATE: Upon approval

Commission staff has reviewed program proposals according to the academic standards adopted by the Commission on November 14, 2002. Each standard is referenced below.

1.1.20A MISSION: The proposed program is consistent with the mission of the University to provide educational programming in agriculture, allied health, arts and sciences, business, education, engineering and technology.

1.1.20B CURRICULUM: The proposed 4 plus 3 year program of study requires completion of 115 semester credit hours, all within the major field core. The physical therapy curriculum requires significant hands-on laboratory experiences and, therefore, requires a smaller student/faculty ratio. The recommended maximum class size should be limited to 24 students. Students are expected to have a minimum of 36 weeks of clinical experience. Research is a theme in the curricular model of the program. The projected faculty of ten full-time individuals would be responsible for advising and guiding an average of 7 students with research projects. Nine (9) new courses were developed with a total of 20 semester credit hours. The additional courses only added ten credit hours to the current Master's in Physical Therapy program due to some courses

being eliminated, credit hour reductions, and the content of some courses being merged with others. The nine new courses are:

<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>
Biomechanics and Movement Science II	3
Pharmacology	2
Clinical Medicine I	3
Health and Wellness	3
Clinical Integration Seminar	2
Clinical Case Conference I	2
Clinical Case Conference II	1
Advanced Clinical Topics I	2
Advanced Clinical Topics II	2

Students are required to engage in 36 credit hours of clinical education during the three-year curriculum. The five clinical education courses are designed to expose the students to a variety of clinical settings while affording the opportunity to apply knowledge gained in the didactic portion of the curriculum to real patients/clients under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. For each of the final three clinical experiences, students are required to complete one in the following three settings: hospital, long-term rehabilitation, and out-patient orthopedics.

1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS: Admission, retention and graduation requirements and will be published in the in Graduate Catalog. Admission to the D.P.T. program requires successful completion of a baccalaureate degree, completion of the required pre-requisites, and the recommendation of the Department of Physical Therapy Admissions Committee. The student must complete prerequisite courses before admission status is achieved. Pre-requisites for admission are competitive with other programs and may be satisfied at any institution.

In addition, applicants must have an overall grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 for undergraduate studies, competitive scores on all three sections of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), an interview with the faculty, a written essay and three letters of recommendation. Students who withdraw or are suspended from the program will be required to reapply for admission to a subsequent class if they wish to continue to pursue physical therapy studies. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the professional component courses.

Projected Program Productivity		
Student Projections	Full-time Enrollment	Graduates
Year 1	24	0
Year 2	48	0
Year 3	72	24
Year 4	72	24
Year 5	72	24

1.1.20D FACULTY: Current faculty is adequate to implement the proposed program.

1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES: No additional library resources are required to implement the proposed program.

1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION: The proposed program will be housed in the College of Health Sciences, coordinated by the Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy.

1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES: The Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education will work closely with doctoral students to provide internship placement experiences. Students desiring to gain clinical experience in a specialty area, such as pediatrics, sports, or industrial rehabilitation, will work with the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education to allow a portion of the time to be spent in the area of choice.

1.1.20H FACILITIES/INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT: The consultant made recommendations for new, up-to-date instructional equipment needed to implement the proposed program. These can be acquired through a Title III grant to purchase equipment for student training and research laboratories.

1.1.20I STUDENT/EMPLOYER DEMANDS: According to a recent survey of the undergraduate students at TSU enrolled in allied health courses, 35 percent listed physical therapy as their intended major. The best labor market evidence for the continuing need for physical therapists is the fact that the 'baby boomers' will soon be entering older adulthood. The sheer increase in the population of older people validates that the demand for rehabilitation services will escalate. Research studies indicate a disparity of physical therapy professionals from minority cultures exist. The representation of African Americans and Hispanics in the field of physical therapy is minimal. TSU will play a major role in correcting this disparity by educating people of minority ethnicity/races in the field of Physical Therapy.

1.1.20J NO UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION: The proposed program would be the only DPT in middle Tennessee at a public institution. Belmont University offers the DPT degree in middle Tennessee.

1.1.20K COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS: External consultants consider the Middle Tennessee region to be a major center for healthcare and higher education that offer countless opportunities to establish linkages and collaborative relationships with medical centers and other universities. Several suggestions were made to TSU regarding possible opportunities to work together, share faculty and collaborate on research and grant initiatives. TSU currently collaborates with Belmont University, Vanderbilt University, the University of Tennessee, and Meharry Medical College on various grant funded projects and will continue to expand those collaborations with the implementation of the proposed DPT.

1.1.20L DESEGREGATION: The program will not impede the state's effort to achieve racial diversity.

1.1.20M ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION: The PT program at TSU has developed a six (6) component outcome assessment plan to determine the

effectiveness of programs. The plan is designed as an ongoing process to provide continual review and improvement. The physical therapy program at TSU was granted Candidacy for Accreditation by CAPTE in November, 2001. Full accreditation for a post professional degree is expected at the end of the CAPTE site visit, scheduled for January 23-26, 2005. Once accreditation is received for the current Master's degree program in PT, it will also cover the proposed D.P.T. program when implemented. SACS will receive notification of THEC action.

1.1.20N ARTICULATION: N/A

1.1.200 EXTERNAL JUDGMENT (Graduate Programs): As required by both TBR and THEC policies, an expert reviewer was contracted to conduct an external review. Dr. Terry Malone, Director and Professor of Physical Therapy at the University of Kentucky, conducted the review in September, 2004. Dr. Malone stated in his report that "the university has assembled the requisite parts to make the DPT viable at TSU." He encouraged the faculty to focus on the CAPTE accreditation and made recommendations for strengthening the program. TSU responded with appropriate plans to accommodate the recommendations and will delay implementation of the DPT program until Summer 2006, thereby allowing the faculty to focus on obtaining full accreditation in 2005.

1.1.20P COST/BENEFIT/SOURCE: In order to be competitive and serve the needs of students, TSU must respond to the new standard of doctoral physical therapy education. All other physical therapy programs in the state of Tennessee, and many programs throughout the country, have already implemented the change mandated by the American Physical Therapy Association which calls for a doctorate as the entry level preparation for a licensed Physical Therapist by 2020. As the only public institution in Middle Tennessee to offer the DPT, TSU can be instrumental in addressing the disparity of minorities with advanced education and training.

The entire recurring budget is in place for the MPT program; therefore, no additional funds are requested for the DPT program. It is the intention of TSU to carry over the budget for the Master's Degree program in Physical Therapy, which has an existing budget for eight faculty, including the department head. TSU projects increased revenue due to an increase from 24 MPT to 36 DPT students, and an increase from 8 semesters for the MPT to 9 semesters for the DPT.

Revenues:

- TSU calculated only additional tuition generated with the implementation of the DPT program, above what is already generated in the MPT program. All tuition calculations account for 80 percent of in-state students and 20 percent of out-of-state students, based on our current students' residences.
- TSU calculated tuition for 12 additional students for 3 semesters per year, since the MPT takes only 24 students per year but the DPT will accept 36 students per year.
- The PT Department is involved in 2 grants – the LEND grant in collaboration with Vanderbilt University and the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Grant in collaboration with Meharry Medical College. It is anticipated that there will be

an increase of 20 percent in grant activity as the program matures and more faculty become involved in writing grants.

ESTIMATED COSTS AND REVENUES (detailed projected budget)

Expenditures	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
One - time:					
4 Consultants	\$ 3000.00				
B. Recurring:					
1.Administration	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 34,000.00
2.Faculty	\$461,830.00	\$461,830.00	\$461,830.00	\$461,830.00	\$461,830.00
3.Staff	\$ 23,524.00	\$ 23,524.00	\$ 23,524.00	\$ 23,524.00	\$ 23,524.00
4.Beneits	\$124,405.00	\$124,405.00	\$124,405.00	\$124,405.00	\$124,405.00
5.Equipment	\$ 2000.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 3,000.00
6.Library	\$ 3000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,800.00
7.Travel	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,220.00	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 18,800.00
8.Other	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 41,000.00	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 43,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
TOTAL (A + B)	\$708,259.00	\$706,959.00	\$709,679.00	\$711,559.00	\$714,359.00
Revenue					
1.State appropriations (new, FTE)					
2.State appropriations (old)	\$705,259.00	\$706,959.00	\$709,679.00	\$711,559.00	\$714,359.00
3.Tuition/Fees					
12 additional students for 3 semesters per year	\$118,812.00	\$118,812.00	\$118,812.00	\$118,812.00	\$118,812.00
4.Institutional Resources					
5.Grants/Contracts	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 27,600.00	\$ 33,120.00	\$ 33,120.00	\$ 39,744.00
Total Revenues:	\$ 847,071.00	\$ 853,371.00	\$861,611.00	\$863,491.00	\$ 872,915.00

1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING: An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first five years following approval. The review will be based on goals established in the approved program proposal. At the end of this period, campus, governing board, and Commission staff will perform a summative evaluation. These goals include, but are not limited to enrollment and graduation numbers, program costs, progress toward accreditation, library acquisitions, student performance and other goals set by the institution and agreed upon by governing board and Commission staff. As a result of this evaluation, if the program is found to be deficient, the Commission may recommend that the governing board terminate the program. Copies of such recommendation will be forwarded to the Education Committees of the General Assembly. The Commission may also choose to extend this period if additional time is needed and requested by the governing board.